



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Dilip M. Ranade
Assignee: VERITAS Operating Corporation
Title: Coordinated Dirty Block Tracking
Serial No.: 10/747,782 Filing Date: December 29, 2003
Examiner: Unassigned Group Art Unit: 2632
Docket No.: VRT0113US

Austin, Texas
November 5, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

The following Amendments and Remarks are submitted for entry into the application filed on December 29, 2003, Application Serial Number 10/747,782. This Preliminary Amendment is submitted for entry along with the accompanying Petition to Make Special. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.

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